FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

19 SEPTEMBER 1983

Lebanon

Syrian Warning on U.S. Involvement — In response to the announcement confirming that U.S. ships have shelled areas where Syrian troops are located, Syria has ordered its forces to respond to any attack on their positions from land, sea, or air by shelling the sources of fire, a Syrian military spokesman announced on 17 September in a statement broadcast by Damascus television. U.S. warships, which had bombarded artillery emplacements in Syrian-controlled areas on 16-17 September, answered the Syrian warning by again shelling the artillery positions on 18 and 19 September, Beirut radio reported. The U.S. shelling was in response to artillery fire at a number of U.S. and Lebanese targets including the U.S. ambassador's residence and the Lebanese Defense Ministry, according to Voice of Lebanon radio. F-14 aircraft overflew Lebanese airspace after Syrian planes were seen over the Al-Biqa' valley, the radio reported 18 September. The radio subsequently disclosed that Syrian planes overflew northern Lebanon for the first time since the Israeli invasion. Diplomatic sources cited by the clandestine Voice of Arab Lebanon radio said the Syrian Air Force has been placed on maximum alert.

Military Situation — Heavy fighting continued in the Suq al-Gharb area over the weekend and the Lebanese Air Force continued air strikes against artillery and vehicles of the Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) and its Palestinian allies, according to Beirut radio. The Army repulsed another attack from the 'Alayh direction early on 19 September and also exchanged fire with Syrian forces in the 'Uyun as-Siman area, the radio said. The Army and Air Force destroyed a number of T-54 tanks and inflicted heavy casualties on their opponents, according to Beirut and Voice of Lebanon reports over the weekend. A Lebanese military spokesman cited by Beirut radio confirmed that a Lebanese warplane was shot down on 16 September; another Lebanese plane was hit and forced to land in Cyprus, according to a Cyprus Government statement reported by Nicosia television. Voice of Lebanon said SAM-7 missiles have been used unsuccessfully against Lebanese planes and also claimed that Soviet advisers have ruled out the possibility of using SAM-6's against them. However, the PSP-backed National Salvation Front (NSF) announced in a statement broadcast by Damascus radio that NSF artillery had responded to Air Force raids in the 'Alayh area by shelling the newly established military airport near Jubayl. Beirut radio said Syrian rocket launchers were responsible for the shelling, which caused casualties, and it reported that the Lebanese Army returned the fire.

In another development, Libyan leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi placed Libyan forces in Al-Biqa' at the disposal of PSP leader Walid Junblatt and also placed the Libyan Armed Forces and all their equipment at Syria's disposal, Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland radio announced. Libya currently has 600 men in the Al-Biqa', according to AFP. Meanwhile, PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, who arrived in the northern Lebanese city of Tripoli on 16 September, issued contradictory statements about Palestinian involvement in the Ash-Shuf fighting. While he reportedly told ANSA that Palestinian fighters "are participating" in the fighting, AFP quoted 'Arafat as denying that the PLO is taking part. A Lebanese Army Command statement reported by Beirut radio provided details of several Palestinians killed in the fighting around Kayfun and Lebanese military sources cited by Radio Monte Carlo claimed that the Army captured 80 Palestinians on 17-18 September. Nevertheless, a PSP "responsible source" announced that while the PSP thanks 'Arafat for his declaration of support, it insists that it does not need support from the Palestinians or other outside forces, Damascus radio reported.

Political Developments — Lebanon cannot possibly accept Syria's conditions to "neutralize" the Army and the Chamber of Deputies, President Amin al-Jumayyil stated in a French television interview reported by Beirut radio. Claiming that the current problems could be solved "in 5 minutes" if he had the opportunity to meet PSP leader Walid Junblatt, Al-Jumayyil blamed Syria for instigating the fighting. Syria and Israel, the two regional "superpowers," are using mercenaries as a cover for their expansionist goals in Lebanon, the president asserted.

Meanwhile, Syrian sources cited by KUNA disclosed that Saudi mediator Prince Bandar ibn Sultan may return to Syria to continue his efforts to secure a cease-fire. The Saudi envoy had left Damascus for home on 16 September expressing doubts about the continuation of his mission, KUNA said. While the Voice of Lebanon blamed Syria for obstructing an accord worked out among Lebanese President al-Jumayyil, Prince Bandar, and U.S. envoy Robert McFarlane, Radio Monte Carlo said the "pessimism" surrounding Prince Bandar's mission arose after the Lebanese Government "rejected the Saudi proposals for the third time" and escalated the military situation on 16 September. After the prince's talks in Damascus with Syrian officials and PSP leader Junblatt that day, the latter confirmed in a Radio Monte Carlo interview that the dispute over the role of the Lebanese Army remains the key issue in the negotiations. Junblatt subsequently stated that he will not permit Lebanon to become a Phalangist state, "even if this means the end of Lebanon," DPA reported.

In Israel Defense Minister Moshe Arens appealed to the PSP's Druze fighters to return to their villages and stop the fighting around Suq al-Gharb, where they have "nothing to look for," according to remarks broadcast by Jerusalem radio. Israel will continue to strike the "terrorists" wherever they are, Arens warned.

Meanwhile, the PSP began experimental transmissions from a newly established radio station, the Amman paper *Ad-Dustur* reported. In a separate development, a traditional Druze rival of the Junblatt family, Amir Majid Arslan, died in a Beirut hospital, according to the Voice of Lebanon.

PLO Affairs

After arriving in northern Lebanon, PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat announced that he was in the area to help confront threats against the Palestinian revolution from the United States, Israel, and local "agents," according to north Lebanon Voice of Palestine radio. 'Arafat met with PLO deputy military commander Khalil al-Wazir and other PLO officials in Tripoli, inspected PLO bases in the area, and urged Palestinian fighters to increase vigilance in order to confront "all possible developments," Baghdad Voice of PLO radio reported. A PLO spokesman cited By Radio Monte Carlo affirmed that 'Arafat's presence in Tripoli is not a provocation against Syria.

Earlier, in a message to the Palestinians broadcast by Baghdad Voice of PLO, 'Arafat commemorated the anniversary of the Sabra and Shatila massacres, for which he held the U.S. Administration "directly responsible" because of its "blatant and shameful collusion" with "the Zionist clique and its agents."

In another development, the Kuwaiti paper *Al-Watan* reported that the PLO reconciliation committee has achieved some progress in its talks with Fatah dissidents, who have persuaded the Fatah Central Committee to escalate armed conflict and reject political solutions for the Palestinian issue, according to KUNA. Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf told the Kuwaiti paper *Al-Qabas* that the PLO has no plans to withdraw from the Al-Biqa' valley and reaffirmed its opposition to establishing a government-in-exile. He declared that one participant at a recent conference of wealthy Palestinians in Tunisia on the question of a government-in-exile was a "spy" for Syria. Khalaf also expressed optimism that the PLO and Israel will exchange prisoners shortly.

Jordan

Jordan will continue talks with the Palestinians and remains committed to their cause, King Husayn stressed in an interview in Tokyo broadcast by Amman television. He reaffirmed that the United States must play "a very major role" in any progress toward a just and durable peace in the Middle East.

Israel

President Chaim Herzog met with Alignment and Likud delegations 18 September as he began a process which will culminate in his decision on a successor to Prime Minister Menahem Begin, according to Jerusalem Radio. Herzog will meet with other factions' representatives to hear their opinions before making his decision, which is expected by 21 September, IDF radio said.

Police in Jerusalem arrested 25 demonstrators protesting on the first anniversary of the Sabra and Shatila massacres in Beirut, Jerusalem radio reported. Around the country, other incidents — mostly stonethrowing — marked the anniversary, the radio noted.

Syria

An explosion in a Hamah textile factory killed three people and injured six others, Voice of Lebanon radio reported 17 September. The Syrian Army arrested several alleged Muslim Brotherhood supporters in connection with the incident, the radio said.

Egypt

A Soviet Foreign Ministry official arrived in Cairo 2 days ahead of schedule for talks on bilateral relations and the Middle East situation, according according to MENA. It is the first visit by a Soviet official to Egypt since 1981, MENA stated.

Iran-Iraq War

France has suspended its scheduled delivery of five Super Etendard aircraft to Iraq and the planes are still at Landivisiau Air Force base, AFP reported on 18 September citing "reliable sources" at the French base. The previous day, Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani announced in a Tehran radio interview that if the French aircraft are used to disturb Gulf security, then "it will be the turn of the Straits of Hormuz to be unsafe too." Iran has the power to shut the "gate" to the Gulf, which should either be safe for everybody or for nobody, the Majlis speaker contended.

Meanwhile, an Iranian military communique broadcast by Tehran radio on 17 September announced that Iranian troops launched an offensive in the northern sector, capturing an Iraqi border post north of Marivan and advancing toward the Shilayr River in Iraq. Hundreds of Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded, the communique said, and an Iraqi helicopter was shot down. An Iraqi military spokesman later ridiculed the claims in a statement reported by INA, calling them "wishful thinking." Iraqi communiques carried by Baghdad radio and INA over the weekend did not mention any Iranian offensive but claimed Iraqi units had attacked Iranian troop concentrations in the northern and central sectors. Meanwhile, an Iranian Joint Staff and Guards Corps communique broadcast by Tehran radio 18 September claimed Iranian forces are in "full control" of the northern region, including newly "liberated" Iraqi territory.

An Iraqi communique carried by INA 16 September admitted the loss of an Iraqi plane over Iranian territory the day before. The Iraqi Sukhoy-22 was downed during an air raid on Marivan, according to a communique broadcast by Tehran radio.

Pilgrimage Dispute

Iranian Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi denied Saudi allegations of a pledge made by Iranian pilgrims not to organize any protest demonstrations in Mecca, IRNA reported. In an earlier statement published by the Karachi paper *Dawn*, the Saudi Interior Ministry declared that despite actions inconsistent with the purpose of the hajj, the Kingdom has always endeavored to deal fairly with Iranian pilgrims. The statement decried Iranian propaganda against the Saudi authorities and warned against any actions contrary to Islamic principles during the hajj.

Pakistan

Seven Afghan MIG's "gravely violated" Pakistani airspace and bombed a village near Parachinar in northwest Pakistan, Karachi radio reported. The Pakistani Government is informing the UN secretary general of the incident, the radio said.

Police using tear gas and clubs dispersed antigovernment demonstrators in Karachi 16 September, according to AFP. As the civil disobedience campaign entered its second month, the jailed leader of the banned Pakistan People's Party called for a national strike 28-29 September to coincide with scheduled local elections in Sind and Punjab, AFP said.

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Babrak Karmal Address on 'Id al-Adha
LD172243 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1530 G[illegible] 17 Sep 83

[Speech by Babrak Karmal on occasion of 'Id al-Adha religious festival — live or recorded]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Religious and toiling compatriots, brothers and sisters: Allow me to convey the congratulations and warm greetings of the PDPA, Revolutionary Council, the DRA Government and myself on the occasion of the arrival of the auspicious festival of sacrifice, to you, the Muslim, toiling and noble people of the country.

All of the implemented actions prove the fact that the sacred religion of Islam enjoys due respect, reverence, and full support in the DRA, which is incomparible with the past despotic and antinational regimes, and that the realization of the lofty objectives of the April Revolution and its new development stage is consistent with the historic invitation of the sacred religion of Islam for peace, calmness, fraternity, and equality.

Religious and toiling brothers and sisters, it is noteworthy that the enemies of Afghanistan's revolution, who are wearing the mask of the so-called defense of Islam, are striving to disguise the nature of their counterrevolutionary criminal deeds under the cover of Islam. They daily set fire to mosques, places of worship,and shrines, mercilessly kill the dear ulema and clergy who are faithful to the homeland and their people, and thus directly act against Islam and Islamic principles. It is not without reason that even the sworn enemies of our people such as the American [word indistinct] and Reagan administration also want to show themselves as the earnest supporter of Muslims and Islam in our country, while U.S. imperialism itself bears the responsibility for the most evil crimes against the Muslim people of the world, among them the people of Palestine and Lebanon.

Now our people have found out from their daily experience how all the enemies of our revolution have hypocritically chosen Islam as a pretext and create obstacles against the implementation of the constructive programs of the party and our revolutionary government, which guarantee the prosperity of society and the progress of the country.

Our people know very well the main reason for the futile resistance of the counterrevolutionaries who are striving to restore lost positions and to defend the plundering interests of the exploiters and past oppressors in contradiction to the spirit of Islam.

Gradually, an important section of the deceived people, in perceiving the truth of the revolutionary path, are breaking with their dark past and are joining the bosom of the revolutionary system.

During the past year in particular, we witnessed tens of thousands of armed individuals joining the revolutionary government.

The formation of tribal assemblies by the leaders of the armed groups in Kabul and in a number of provinces once again proved the righteousness of our principled policy regarding the restoration of nationwide peace and the creation of a basis for national understanding and showed to all that the counterrevolutionaries are isolated from the people and no longer have the power of resistance against the powerful wave of the revolution.

I want restate that the national government, in accordance with the amnesty decree of the DRA Revolutionary Council, invites all deceived compatriots to return to the bosom of their homes and shelters like the tens of thousands of armed individuals who so far have joined their evolutionary system and to work and struggle with genuine Islamic fraternity for the tranquillity and prosperity of the homeland. The prosperity of our people, the prosperity of our children and future generations, depends on the implementation of the aspirations of the revolution.

In these auspicious days, there are oppressed human beings who pass (?unbearable) moments under the bloodstained [word indistinct] of the servants of capital and oppression.

In this day of the tradition of sacrifice and devotion, we renew our pledge to continue, with further strength, the righteous and just struggle for clearing the homeland of saboteurs, merciless killers, and [word indistinct] who are the proponents of the inhumane and selfish policy of reaction and U.S. imperialism.

The seditious incident and shameless violation by the South Korean plane over the [words indistinct] regions of the Soviet Union, carried out on the order of the Pentagon's politicians and the U.S. adverturers — Reagan, CIA executioners, the bloodthirsty plotters and the Pentagon — once again diplayed that imperialism does not care about the sacrifice of human beings in order to achieve its evil objectives and to fan the danger of nuclear war. With such an enemy, one should act with vigilance and courage for devotion and struggle to defend peace.

In conclusion, I want to congratulate once again all the toiling Muslims of the country, the Pashto and Baluch brothers, the people of the fraternal neighboring countries of Iran and Pakistan and the Muslims of the world on the occasion of the auspicious days of the festival of sacrifice and hope for their further progress and prosperity in the peaceful atmosphere of the world.

'Counterrevolutionaries Crushed' in Nangarhar
LD161836 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1530 GMT 16 Sep 83

[Text] A group of the counterrevolutionary elements who had been disrupting the normal life of the toiling people of Behsoud region, Nangarhar Province, recently were crushed by the security forces of Nangarhar Province with the cooperation of the toiling people of this region. Seven of them were arrested.

A spokesman of the security forces of Nangarhar Province said assorted weapons and a quantity of ammunition were seized from these criminals by the security forces.

Gandhi Opens World Energy Conference 18 September

BK181322 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 18 Sep 83

[Text] The prime minister has suggested a five-point action program for harnessing renewable energy sources and conserving energy for a better future for mankind. Mrs Gandhi was opening the 12th Congress of the World Energy Conference in New Delhi today. Over 300 delegates, half of them from abroad, are attending the 6-day conference, first ever being held in a developing country.

Mrs Gandhi cautioned the energy experts and policymakers everywhere that the long-range energy problem is far more acute than we think. Energy, she said, can be the focal point of international cooperation. Underlining the need for giving a new direction to technology, Mrs Gandhi said urgent action is needed in five areas. They are: application of new biological advances in biomass production, photochemical technique to produce hydrogen to be used as mobile fuel, energy storage devices to make transporation less dependent on oil, photovoltage devices to provide electricity directly from sunlight, and integrated energy systems.

AFP Reports PRC Admitted

BK181314 Hong Kong AFP in English 1300 GMT 18 Sep 83

[Text] New Delhi, Sept. 18 (AFP) — China was today admitted to the World Energy Conference here following four days of heated discussions, officials said.

The announcement of China's admission to the meeting was made 30 minutes before the opening session of the 12th World Energy Conference, at which Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi called for a new world energy order. The move to allow Beijing to enter the conference was seen as historic by delegates attending the meetings. China's admission came following a compromise agreement that the move would not result in the expulsion of Taiwan. The agreement was adopted by all but one member of the conference. The agreement also necessitated a change in the statutes of the conference, leading to a decision that representation at meetings and in its executive committee will from now on be determined geographically instead of by country. As a result, experts will participate as individuals.

Sources close to the executive committee said that a lively debate over China's admission erupted early today between the majority of conference delegates and those representing socialist countries, led by Cuba. The socialist nations rejected the compromise formula, saying that it would lead to political problems, notably for federated nations, each of whose states could eventually demand a place at the conference. Such a situation would pose a threat to their national unity, the socialist countries added. But the compromise plan was adopted in today's afternoon session.

China, like India, has an ambitious nuclear energy program, and plans to produce 8,000 megawatts of nuclear energy by the year 2000. India is forecasting nuclear power output of 10,000 megawatts by the turn of the century. The two nations also both have significant coal and offshore oil reserves.

Gandhi Says World Situation Worsened by KAL Event

BK191011 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 19 Sep 83

[Text] A group of prominent persons, including intellectuals and social workers, called on the prime minister, Mrs Gandhi, in New Delhi today on the eve of her departure for the UN General Assembly session. In a statement presented to her, the group expressed solidarity and support of the Indian people in her campaign for peace, security, and human progress. It expressed its happiness that many heads of government have responded to the call of Mrs Gandhi and are attending the UN session.

Talking to them, Mrs Gandhi said that the international situation at the moment is very confused. The confusion has been aggravated by the recent Korean plane incident. It is, therefore, all the more important to work for peace even if it is an uphill task. The prime minister said she is not expecting any miracle to happen at the meeting. The whole idea is to have a formal exchange of views without any agenda or a common declaration at the end. But it is hoped that some new ideas would come out.

Wishing success to Mrs Gandhi's endeavor, the group said that she was going not only as the prime minister or the chairperson of the Nonaligned Movement but also as the representative of the Indian people. The group was led by Mrs Aruna Asaf Ali. The signatories to the statement included Dr Shanker Dayal Sharma, Mr B.R. Bhagat, Mr R.L. Bhatia, Mr C.C. Bhattacharya — all members of parliament — Mr Justice M.H. Bge, and Mr A.J. Kidwai.

Consular Access Available to Pakistani Prisoners

BK161616 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 16 Sep 83

[Text] An official spokesman in New Delhi has denied that India has refused consular access to 25 Pakistan prisoners. Commenting on an allegation by the Pakistani Embassy, he said many of them have been released.

A Pakistani Embassy press release had said that while Pakistan has fulfilled its obligation with regard to providing consular access to Indian detenues in Pakistan awaiting repatriation, its officials were only able to meet three of the Pakistani prisoners detained in India.

The spokesman said that the Indian law does not permit detaining anyone after completion of their jail term. Many of them have been released and several of them have gone back to Pakistan along with their families. Our (?estimate) is that there are only three prisoners in India, the spokesman added.

India and Pakistan agreed on consular access in accordance with the Indo-Pakistan protocol on the issue. Both sides exchanged lists in December last year. The actual consular access did not take place till the 14th of this month because Pakistan raised doubts regarding nationalities of the detenues in India.

Afghan MiG's Violate Airspace, Bomb Village Outskirts
BK181526 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1505 GMT 18 Sep 83

[Text] This morning at 0940 [0440 GMT] Pakistan's airspace was gravely violated when seven Afghan MiG-21 military aircraft entered the Khurram Valley and dropped eight bombs on the outskirts of a village located at 3 km northeast of Parachinar, resulting in the death of one person and injury to another. Out of these seven aircraft, four dropped bombs and the other three provided cover.

The Government of Pakistan is informing the UN secretary general about this grave violation.

AFP: Police Disperse Demonstrators in Karachi
OW162006 Paris AFP in English 1959 GMT 16 Sep 83

[Text] Islamabad, Sept. 16 (AFP) — Police used tear gas and clubs to disperse demonstrators in the Sind capital of Karachi today as a national protest continued against the military regime of President Mohammad Ziaul Haq.

As protest by the eight-party Movement for Restoration of Democracy (MRJ) entered its second month, Pakistan People's Party (PPP) Chief Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi called from his jail cell for a national strike September 28-29, coinciding wih local elections in Punjab and Sind.

The MRD has boycotted nonpartisan elections in Pakistan's other two provinces of Baluchistan and Northwest Frontier Province.

But the government has refused to delay elections in Sind, where political violence has claimed an estimated 50 lives.

Mr Jatoi has called on other provinces to join the movement.

"The death squads have unleashed an unbounded tyranny on innocent people of Sind," he said in a statement smuggled out of his jail cell and circulated to the press. It called upon the "free conscience" of Muslims the world over to "exert moral pressure on President Ziaul Haq's regime to stop the genocide."

Acting Punjab Governor Orders Release of Detainees
BK171105 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 17 Sep 83

[Text] The acting governor of Punjab has ordered immediate release of all 72 people, including all the women, detained in connection with the agitation launched by the Movement for the Restoration of Democracy. ASSOCIATED PRESS OF PAKISTAN, quoting official sources, said this step has been taken in the spirit of good will and on genuine humanitarian grounds so as to allow the detainees to celebrate 'Id al-Adha along with their family members.

961 Detainees Released in Sind Province
BK171636 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 17 Sep 83

[Text] In Sind, 961 people arrested during recent disturbances have been released. An official announcement in Karachi this evening said the decision was made as a special gesture to allow these people to celebrate 'Id al-Adha with their family members.

The Sind governor has given a special remission of 30 days in the terms of prisoners in various jails of the province on the eve of 'Id al-Adha. This remission has led to the release of 95 prisoners and reduced by 30 days the total prison terms of 1,777 other prisoners.

Sanghar Summary Military Court Sentences Two
BK171109 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0600 GMT 17 Sep 83

[Text] A summary military court in Sanghar has sentenced two people to 6 months rigorous imprisonment under martial law regulations 5 and 13. They were convicted on charges of organizing a procession in Shahzadpur and disrupting general peace and order.

DAWN: Soviet Embassy Denies Training Subversives
GF162032 Karachi Dawn in English 14 Sep 83 p 3

[Text] Islamabad, Sept 13, [PPI] — The Soviet Embassy here Tuesday denied a report from New Delhi that 200 Pakistani nationals are being trained in conducting subversive activities against Pakistan.

A Soviet Embassy press release issued here said that Soviet Union does not indulge in the internal affairs of Pakistan. It said that the report, emanating from New Delhi, amounted to aiming at instigating the anti-Soviet feelings among the Pakistani people.

It may be recalled that the report, quoting diplomatic sources in New Delhi, had said that about 200 young Pakistanis are understood to have crossed into Soviet Union via Afghanistan, for training in sabotage and subversive activities.

Zia Approves Recommendations on Islamic Law Courts
BK161207 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 16 Sep 83

[Text] A special meeting was held in the Chief Martial Law Administrator Secretariat in Rawalpindi today under the chairmanship of the President, General Mohammad Ziaul Haq, to review the progress for the establishment of model qazi [Islamic law] courts in Islamabad and Rawalpindi divisions. Today's meeting, which lasted for over 2 hours, studied and examined the reports of three committees prepared by the provincial home secretary, the divisional commissioner, and the deputy inspector general, police.

The president approved most of the recommendations in principle and expressed the hope that arrangements for the establishment of qazi courts in Islamabad and Rawalpindi divisions would be finalized at the fourth and final meeting. The president reiterated the government's resolve to provide speedy and inexpensive justice to the people according to the principles of Islam. He said this purpose could be effectively achieved only if the persons appointed as qazis at various spheres from thana to district levels had impeccable personal character besides being fully conversant with the Islamic laws. The president added that he would soon appoint a special committee to select such persons with the utmost care and consideration. He hoped that the election of such persons would be completed in the next 3 to 4 weeks.

Today's meeting was the third in the series held since the president announced on the 14th of August that qazi courts would be established on experimental basis in Islamabad and Rawalpindi divisions and the experiment would be later extended to rest of the country. The earlier two meetings were held in Rawalpindi and Murree.

Yaqub Khan Departs for UNGA Session 17 September

BK171240 Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu 0800 GMT 17 Sep 83

[Text] The foreign minister, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, left Islamabad this morning for New York where he will represent Pakistan at the current UN General Assembly session.

Talking to radio and television representatives at the airport, he said he will meet the UN secretary general, Mr Perez de Cuellar, and discuss the Afghanistan problem with him and his special representative, Mr Cordovez. The purpose of his meeting with the secretary general and the special representative is to reinforce the informal talks and to ascertain in what way they can better move forward in settling the Afghanistan problem through indirect talks, he added.

The foreign minister expressed the hope that he will have a meeting with Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko and that he will carry forward the positive talks he held with him in Moscow. Sahabzada Yaqub Khan said that, during the UNGA session, he will meet with the foreign ministers of several countries and exchange views with them on matters of common interest.

In reply to a question, the foreign minister said there is no possibility of talks on any issues with the Indian prime minister who will also attend the UNGA session. However, he added, Pakistan is always ready to hold any type of negotiations with the Indian representative.

Indian Group Arrives To Search for Relatives

BK171632 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 17 Sep 83

[Text] A group of parents and relatives of Indian nationals allegedly missing in Pakistan has come to Pakistan to search for them. A spokesman of the Foreign Office told the Radio Pakistan representative that the group has come under an India-Pakistan agreement which is aimed at sending home people detained in each country after completion of their terms. The Radio Pakistan representative has learned that the two countries had exchanged lists to this effect last December and Pakistan has fulfilled its responsibilities in providing consular access to Indian nationals detained in Pakistan.

Khomeyni 18 Sep Speech Criticizes Support for Iraq
LD182204 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 18 Sep 83

[36-minute speech by Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni on 18 September on occasion of 'Id al-Adha to Prime Minister Musavi, Cabinet members, chief of Joint Staff, and other officials—recorded]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. I congratulate you gentlemen, the Muslim nation of Iran, and the world's oppressed peoples on the occasion of this blessed 'Id.

I believe that if some rationality exists in France and among the French leaders who are, as it were, sitting there, then it is wisdom which they should send to Saddam. It is because there is no wisdom that the present difficulties have emerged. I believe it is Saddam's lack of rationality that has led him to this stage. If he had been rational, then he would not have been deceived by America from the very beginning when he was told to proceed with the war, for the matter would have ended within a few days. Now, he has come to realize that it was not true [as heard], that it is still continuing. As a matter of fact, you saw for yourselves that over the past 2 to 3 days our young men have advanced into Iraq and are still advancing. Did all the Mirages sent over accomplish anything? Weapons should be handled by those who can handle them.

Those who lack anyone to make use of these weapons, those whose forces run away when they face a few of our dear guards, can they accomplish anything? What the Iraqis are doing is staying in their own towns, in the border areas, and bringing Abadan and other areas under their fire. This is the sort of world we are living in; everybody is providing Saddam Husayn with assistance when they know he is incapable of accomplishing anything. Did the Soviet Union deliver fewer arms to Saddam than France did? He took delivery of them, but failed to do anything. Indeed, he did manage to cause destruction, but failed to advance; he was defeated everywhere.

The reason they are being defeated stems from the fact that they lack what our guards enjoy. Saddam attempts to imitate these things. As soon as it is said that the Iranian people give gifts to the war effort, then he arranges for a group of people to go and take gifts for the Iraqi war effort. This has been substantiated by foreign radio reeports, in publications, and by people who have been there.It is reported that his agents go from house to house demanding to see receipts. If they find anyone unable to produce a receipt, then they demand gold and jewelry. If it so happens that they have no gold or jewelry then they are taken to the (?police) station as culprits.

At any rate, this is the situation we are facing in this world. Those who succeed owe it to their following Abraham, peace be upon him. These people have already uttered the word labbayk [here I stand] to Abraham, peace be upon him. However, these Iraqis who want to succeed, what do these people say? They appeal to Aflaq. Can one fail to distinguish between those who say labbayk to Aflaq and those who say labbayk to Abraham? The former are fugitives and when the situation dictates they will seek refuge wherever appropriate. [shouts of God is great, Khomeyni is the leader, Death to America, Death to the USSR, and Death to Israel]

As you see, today Lebanon is facing the difficulties which we are witnessing. So many crimes are being committed there. Yesterday it was the Zionists; today it is Amin al-Jumayyil. America is committing these deeds; America does not want the region to see calm. Wherever it can, America intervenes directly; where it cannot, it sends its agents to cause discord. The hypocrites intended to create certain events in Iran and commit crimes; they created and committed events and crimes and then fled, leaving the rest of them still here. They are following the same path. If before their departure to France it was argued that they might, perhaps, not be doing so, then it is now clear that they are. These people who are, as it were, of the people have joined hands of friendship with Saddam who daily is bombing our Islamic country. These people have been disgraced. They have gone to Paris, sitting there and uttering insults. [passage indistinct]

I hope God Almighty will enable us all, as well as all nations, to proceed along our path and to do everything for the sake of God. May God Almighty alert the nations to present problems and awaken the governments of Islamic countries. They assume that Israel backs them and supports them, so they should assist it. Israel, who plans to occupy Arab countries, is assumed to be their friend. Or, for that matter, America supports them and backs them. What America expects from you is oil and profit; it wants you to remain a market for it. The same thing applies to the Soviet Union; there is no distinction. They want to take advantage of you; they want to make use of the resources given you by God; they want you to be a servant for them. But if you encounter difficulties, then none of them will respond to your cry for help. Do you not know them? This is the situation concerning those who think of themselves and their own world. They cooperate with those who serve their interests. However, as soon as they realize that this no longer applies, then they reject them.

Surely you have heard this about Churchill? During the world war, Churchill was the chief of England. The Soviet Union was England's ally, so was America. As soon as Hitler was defeated, Churchill said now is the time to rise against the Soviet Union. This was under the circumstance when they were allies, but he intended to enter into a war with it. The fact is that it was the Soviet Union which won the war against Germany. Nevertheless, the British Parliament did not allow this. This is the state of affairs. As soon as they find a better friend, they discard their original friend and drop him.

AFP Cites Khamene'i Response to French Jet Delivery
NC170916 Paris AFP in English 0853 GMT 17 Sep 83

[Text] Tehran, Sep 17 (AFP) — The delivery of Super Etendard jet fighters to Iraq by France "will not remain unanswered," President 'Ali Khamene'i warned in a speech published in the Iranian press today.

Rather than being "cowed by the threat of the superpowers," Iran would pursue its action against Iraq, he was quoted as saying. The result of the Gulf war, now entering its fourth year,

would be determined by the faith of the combatants and not by these aircraft or other war material, he said.

Quoted in a speech Thursday to provincial leaders of the Islamic Republic Party, he said Iran was preparing "a heavy blow in response to this infamy—a reference to France's planned delivery of five Super Etendard jets ordered by Iraq.

"Our enemies believe they can change the outcome of the war to their profit by supplying more equipment to this man, already dead," Mr. Khamene'i said, in a reference to Iraqi President Saddam Husayn.

"Those seeking to damage us, be warned that we will retaliate rapidly to their blows," he said.

Other powerful Iranian leaders have threatened reprisals against France following reports that delivery of the new aircraft was imminent. Thousands of Iranians shouted "death to France" during Friday prayers in Tehran.

Musavi-Ardabili Speaks on War, French Planes, Lebanon
LD161413 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 16 Sep 83

[Excerpts] Millions of our Muslim compatriots took part in religious-political ceremonies of the glorious Friday prayers throughout the country today. Tehran University and its surrounding streets also witnessed the presence of the Muslim and revolutionary people of Tehran taking part in today's glorious Friday prayers. This eternal Mohammedan tradition was held under the imamate of Ayatollah Musavi-Ardabili, ad interim Friday imam of Tehran.

At the start of the second sermon, referring to the war, the ad interim Friday imam of Tehran made the following remarks.

[Begin Musavi-Ardabili recording] War has been imposed upon us for the past 3 years. We, our nation, so far have come out of it with pride, honor, and victory, thanks be to God. During the past 3 years, we nearly finished the war many times. Whenever, we came close to finishing this risen, filthy germ of corruption, neither East nor West would allow it. Whenever they realized that he was shaky, whenever they saw he was in a crisis, they came to him and assisted him with money, weapons and other military means. They helped to keep him afloat.

They accuse us of being warmongers and claim that they themselves are peace lovers. We want to fell this damned tree so as to end the war, but they help to protect it so that the war will continue. Are they peace lovers? And are we warmongers?

We begin each year in the hope of final victory; at the end of each year, we celebrate one week as the week of war. This week of war is celebrated to prepare and revive the nation; we should prepare ourselves for continuation of the war.

You learned a lesson from us and realized that you are murderers. You, the entire nation, beware: These people will pluck the bird that rolls in its blood. [Persian poem] The superpowers are accustomed to sucking the blood of weak nations. Without the flesh and blood of the weak nations, which they divide among themselves like sacrificed lambs, they cannot quench their own thirst.

Therefore, the Labbayk Ya Khomeyni project was planned to assist us in the formation of the 20-million-strong armed forces. We will acquire a power to make these powers understand that Iran is not a willow tree that trembles in every wind.

I wonder whether this Labbayk Ya Khomeyni project will also consider old men like me? It invites those who have once gone to the war and have handled weapons. It calls upon them to be prepared. We have also gone to the front, but we did not fight. We talked and preached and met the warriors. If they were to accept me, I would volunteer.

France is giving Iraq five or six planes armed with missiles which can hit targets from a distance of 40 km. I remember when it spread propaganda in the world about the Mirage. France said: We are giving Mirage fighters to Iraq. It thought that by giving Mirages the problem would be over. The Mirage achieved nothing. Will the Super Etendard do anything? It will not be able to. [shouts of "Death to France"]

I, in this sacred status, announce: France should know that the Iranian warriors and the Iranian nation are not a nation to remain idle and indifferent in the face of such clear aggression; they will give sufficient reply. [shouts of "God is the greatest"] [end recording]

Referring to the massacre of Muslims in Lebanon by the Phalangists, the Lebanese Armed Forces, and the American forces, the ad interim Friday imam of Tehran said: [read by announcer] The new move of the Muslim people of Lebanon during which the men and women, the old and the young, joined the strugglers in Lebanon to conquer a garrison has surprised the world.

Reagan issued orders to massacre the Muslims of Lebanon in order to end the problem of Lebanon. That is what he thinks. If the United States won victory in Vietnam, it would be victorious in Lebanon too. Lebanon is on the line [as heard] of God and the combatants of Lebanon are defending the unity and territorial integrity of this country. This time the issue should end forever and the majority regain its rights from the minority. The president of Lebanon should also be a responsible and committed Muslim.

IRNA: 6,000 French Military Advisers in Iraq
GF171708 Tehran IRNA in English 1618 GMT 17 Sep 83

[Text] Paris, Sept. 17, IRNA — A total of 6,000 French military advisors are now in Iraq and are giving military training to the Ba'thist army, a French TV commentary said Friday night.

The commentator of the French TV, however, did not say how long the advisors have been in Iraq. The commentator also did not mention the recent defeat of Ba'thist forces in the war fronts of the Iraqi imposed war.

The commentator said the delivery of Super Etendard planes to Iraq by France meant to block the way for advance of the Islamic revolution, and pointed out that it was the policy Mitterrand's government was following. Other objectives of the Socialist government, the commentator said, was to keep the tottering regime of Saddam in power and also to curtail the Soviet influence in Baghdad.

The commentary was aired to mark the occasion of the delivery of Super Etendard planes to Iraq, but, observers believe, that such commentary was in fact a reaction to questions posed by the French people to the Socialist government or the issue of French help to Saddam's regime.

The presence of 6,000 French advisors in Iraq was never made public before and Socialist Government of France tries to give the impression that the delivery of Super Etendards is not a new step and that Franco-Iraqi cooperation has been going on for few years.

Armed Forces Joint Staff Issues Communiques

Communique No 1,460

LD161747 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 16 Sep 83

[Communique No 1,460 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Yesterday the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the antiaircraft defense units repelled the enemy's air attacks, shooting down an Iraqi Sukhoy-22 that intended to bomb Marivan. The plane crashed near Sanandaj at 1620 and the pilot, First Lieutenant Amjad Khalil Ibrahim, was captured by our forces.

During the past 24 hours, the operations carried out by the fighting forces of Islam continued with execution of fire on enemy infantry and armor positions and supply points. Our forces maintained the upper hand on all fronts and operational regions and inflicted damage to the Saddamist Forces' equipment and fortifications. A number of Iraq forces were killed or wounded.

On the southern fronts, our forces continue to defend their positions and to dispatch surveillance groups to keep the enemy's activities under observation. In the Abadan and Khorramshahr operational regions, our forces opened fire on enemy personnel and fortifications on the other side of the Arvand Rud, destroyed one vehicle and one machinegun belonging to the aggressors, and set fire to nine foxholes and slit trenches. The enemy's engineering activities were also disrupted and 15 Saddamists were either killed or wounded.

On the western fronts, exchanges of fire continued all day yesterday. Our courageous forces maintained the upper hand over the enemy, firing on enemy gathering points and equipment, and halting those mercenaries' activities on the ground. On the Piranshahr operational fronts, the forces of Islam's fire destroyed two trucksand an ammunition depot belonging to the enemy. Our forces also opened fire on enemy positions facing Sumar, destroyed an excavator, and set fire to two of their ammunition depots. The (Kumeh Sang) post also sustained some damage.

The city of Abadan yesterday came under sporadic enemy heavy weapons fire, which damaged two houses and one shop.

[Signed] Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Communique No 1,461

LD171830 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 17 Sep 83

[Communique No 1,461 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. We congratulate all Muslims throughout the world, particularly the imam of the nation, the idol-smasher Khomeyni, and the nation of the imam on the occasion of the blessed religions festival of Qorban 'Id. The following are the developments on the various battlefields during the past 24 hours.

The hard-working Islamic combatants, having silenced enemy fire by opening their own artillery fire on the blasphemous Saddamist positions and fortifications in Panjwin, Hargineh, (Waliyabah), Tutman, Shanandari, and [name indistinct] prevented the enemy's movements. Our forces also smashed several Ba'thist individual and group bunkers and fired on one storehouse and two enemy ammunition vehicles.

The mighty Islamic Armed Forces combatants, stationed in the operational sectors in the western part of the country, stopped the enemy's engineering operations, aimed at mining, establishing positions, and digging canals and trenches, by using artillery and other available weapons' fire. Consequently, they stopped the movement and deployment of enemy armored and infantry units in the operational areas and inflicted damage and casualties on enemy equipment and troops.

Abadan came under the misled enemy's sporadic heavy and long range weapons. As a result, two buildings were damaged.

Our naval units also brought enemy positions on the far side of the Arvand Rud under fire, thus smashing a number of Iraqi group and individual positions and wounding enemy troops. The attempted raids by Iraqi aircraft on the airspace of Iran's border towns were foiled yesterday by our air defense units and our sublime Air Force pilots.

[Signed] Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Communique No 1,462

LD181736 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 18 Sep 83

[Communique No 1,462 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. During the past 24 hours, exchanges of artillery and mortar fire continued on the western fronts. The exchange of fire was more intense in the operational regions of Piranshahr, Sar Dasht, Beneh, and Marivan. In the Piranshahr operational region, a number of enemy patrol groups came close to the defensive positions of our forces. As a result of firing by the combatants of Islam, they were forced to flee leaving behind a number of dead and wounded.

In the operational regions of Mehran and Sumar, heavy weapons fire by our forces foiled all enemy activities and movements and the Saddamists sustained damage and casualties. Damage sustained by the enemy forces along the western fronts yesterday includes the destruction of two trucks carrying personnel, an ammunition dump, an excavator, 8 foxholes and trenches, and at least 30 dead or wounded.

On the southern fronts yesterday, the victorious combatants of Islam returned enemy fire, silenced the heavy weapons belonging to the Saddamists, and prevented their troop movements. Intensity of exchanges of fire in the Sharhani region was greater than in other regions; in the Zeyd, (Zubaydiyah), and Zubaydat regions, our powerful combatants opened heavy weapons fire and halted enemy engineering activities. Our forces also opened fire on assembly points of the Saddamist forces and inflicted casualties on them.

Yesterday, residential districts of the city of Abadan came under the fire of enemy long range weapons, as a result of which four houses and a school were damaged.

[Signed] Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

'Offensive Operations' in Marivan Region Cited

LD171735 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 17 Sep 83

[Unnumbered communique of Joint Staff of Armed Forces and central headquarters of Revolution Guards Corps]

[Excerpts] The mighty antiblasphemous fighters of the army of monotheism retaliated against the enemy movements, following the movement and deployment of the Zionist enemy in the Marivan region and its moribund actions. Launching daring offensive operations and opening heavy fire on the Zionist Saddamist positions, fortifications, and emplacements, our forces dealt heavy blows on them. The victorious Islamic army, having opened coordinated fire and launched victorious operations, succeeded in forcing the defeated enemy to retreat, thus hoisting the victorious flag of Islam over tens of kilometers of liberated areas inside Iraq.

In the course of these victorious operations, the Islamic forces dealt heavy blows to Iraqi Brigades 105 and 428 and, having killed or wounded hundreds of the enemy troops, captured a number of enemy troops. Our forces also set fire to a considerable quantity of Zionist enemy equipment and ammunition. During these operations, one enemy helicopter was shot down. Right now, having liberated one enemy border post north of Marivan and established their domination over the strategic regions and heights, including (Shaykh Shalkhan), Zorun, (Kur Gel), Kani Harmi (Bizeh), Qalandar, (Aveh), (Zerbaveh), Sarku, (Ahu Kolar Ab), our forces are advancing toward the Shilayr River inside Iraq.

[Signed] central heaquarters of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, the Joint Staff of the Islamic Republic Armed Forces

Communique No 2

LD181812 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 18 Sep 83

[Joint Communique No 2 of Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and central headquarters of Islamic Revolution Guards Corps]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Following enemy movements and reconnaisance operations in the sector north of Marivan over the past 2 nights, and on the auspicious occasion of the Qorban 'Id and under the command of the great leader of the Islamic Revolution and commander in chief, Imam Khomeyni, the combatants of Islam replied to enemy harrassment. During a successful operation involving heavy and coordinated fire on the positions and fortifications of the defeated, Ba'thist, Zionist regime of Iraq, they inflicted heavy blows on the enemy. During this victorious operation, the forces of Islam, with God's help and with admirable bravery, forced the feeble enemy to retreat, liberated dozens of kilometers inside Iraq, and raised the glorious flag of dear Islam.

During this successful operation, the combatants of Islam dealt heavy blows to the enemy's 105 and 428 Brigades, killing or injuring hundreds of them and capturing many. During this operation, the defenders of the Islamic Revolution liberated an enemy border post in the sector north of Marivan and took up positions in strategic sectors and heights inside enemy territory, namely (Shaykh Shalkhan), Sirwal, (Kurkal), Kani Harmi, Dizah, (Aalandaravah), (Zurbavah), (Sar Suraw) and (Golarab) and crossed the river Shalar inside Iraq.

The combatants of Islam are at present strengthening their captured positions and are in full control of the region and enemy movements. Large quantities of enemy equipment and ammunition were set on fire and destroyed by the forces of Islam. An Iraqi helicopter was shot down by the forces of Islam.

[Signed] Central headquarters of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Hashemi-Rafsanjani Tours Sistan-Baluchestan

LD162352 Tehran IRNA in English 1944 GMT 16 Sep 83

[Text] Zabol, Sept 16, IRNA — Majlis Speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani who is on a visit to Sistan-Baluchestan Province called on all people feeling a concern about unprivileged areas and committed to the economic well being of the country, to come to Sistan-Baluchestan and serve the people there. The Hojjat ol-Eslam who was speaking to a large audience minutes before the main ceremonies of the Friday mass prayers here also hailed the efforts of the people in the province for upholding the Islamic revolution.

He told the people here that they should take the initiative in constructing their province rather than look to and rely on the central government.

The Majlis speaker also reminded that as a result of the imposition of a "Marxist government" in Afghanistan countless Afghans had fled to Iran and to the south east of the country thereby increasing the burden of living on the shoulder of a people who are now acting as hosts to the thousands of the defecting Afghans.

He also noted that one of the responsibilities of the Iranian people is to contribute to the people in the Sistan-Baluchestan Province in the task of caring for the defecting Afghans so that the task will not become onerous to the native people in these areas.

Later in the day Hojjat ol-Eslam Rafsanjani arrived in Konarak Tenth Fighter Base. He was welcomed at the base by the regional commander of the Navy, Captain Hosseyni, and head of the political and ideological department of the Navy, and the commander of the base and a group of locals. Hojjat ol-Eslam Rafsanjani is accompanied in his Sistan-Baluchestan tour by the minister of roads and transportation, Hadinezhad-Hoseyniyan, health minister Manafi, the minster of state in charge of plan and budget organisation, Dr Banki, and a representative from the agriculture ministry. The Majlis speaker is scheduled to inspect an air-force base and naval facilities in the port of Chah Bahar.

Chah Bahar Visited

GF170800 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 17 Sep 83

[Text] Islamic Majlis Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani, in a continuation of his visit to the Province of Baluchestan va Sistan, visited Chah Bahar yesterday afternoon and attended a large gathering of the Muslim people of this city. In an address to them, he said: Your city is now at the threshold of becoming a full-fledged harbor and a base for a specialized naval force. On the basis of the plans already approved, this area will be turned into an economic and military region and in the near future it will soon be further developed by the movements of merchant ships and installation of industrial centers.

In a continuation of his speech, the speaker said: In our long-term plan it has been decided to make Chah Bahar into a port for the import of goods and an export center.

Speaking about the plots of the world oppressors in the region, he added: International robbers wanted to use this big port as a base in the region to take possession of your city and turn it into an American base. But the Islamic Revolution has saved you from this and today, instead of American technicians, your own religious military forces are running the administration of this magnificent base which must guard the sensitive region of Chah Bahar and set up contacts between the Islamic Republic of Iran and the (?Indian) Ocean.

Activities in Bandar 'Abbas Cited

LD171500 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 17 Sep 83

[Text] According to our correspondent, Hashemi-Rafsanjani, speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly, took part at the morning ceremonies of the personnel of the 1st [as heard]Fighter Base in Konarak and made a speech.

After the morning ceremony, Hashemi-Rafsanjani went to Bandar 'Abbas Airport where he and his accompanying delegation were formally welcomed by Hojjat ol-Eslam Ahmadi, the imam's representative and the Friday imam of Bandar 'Abbas, the governor general of Hormozgan, the commander of the Navy, and a group from the military and security forces.

On the basis of this report, immediately after his arrival in Bandar 'Abbas, Hashemi-Rafsanjani took part at the morning ceremonies of the military personnel of Bandar 'Abbas. Afterward he visited naval factories and inspected several areas. Later on, the speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly and his entourage left for the Strait of Hormuz in a small battleship [nav-e jangi] to tour the region.

On his arrival in Bandar 'Abbas, the speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly said: The purpose of my trip is to review problems and difficulties of the deprived people of this region and to investigate issues related to the strategic Strait of Hormuz.

Security of Hormuz Straits Viewed

LD172103 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 17 Sep 83

[Excerpts] Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani, speaker of the Islamic Majlis and the imam's representative on the Supreme Defense Council, arrived in Bandar 'Abbas at 0825, accompanied by the ministers of roads and transport, welfare, budget and planning, and the deputy prime minister in charge of development.

The speaker of the Islamic Majlis answered questions in a short interview with our correspondent. In reply to a question asking him about his objectives in this trip to Hormozgan Province Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani said:

[Begin recording][Hashemi-Rafsanjani] In the name of God the compassionate, the merciful. My objective is quite clear; I am obligated to visit remote and deprived provinces, get in touch with the people, talk to officials, familiarize myself with their needs,

facilities and their problems. Here, of course, because of the presence of our military forces and our important military bases, and especially the Straits of Hormuz, which because of issues of which you are aware, are of special importance to us, and because certain steps should be taken in this respect, I think it is necessary for a member of the Supreme Defense Council to visit here. Along with my other duties, I will investigate the issue of the Straits of Hormuz, and there are important things included in the program.

[Correspondent] Recently, the United States and also the Socialist and Zionist regime of France have provided Iraq with Super Etendard planes and are trying to disturb the security of the Persian Gulf and the Straits of Hormuz. Considering the importance that Iran attaches to the Straits of Hormuz, will you please inform us of your views as the imam's representative on the Suprme Defense Council?

[Hashemi-Rafsanajni] As long as the Persian Gulf enjoys security then the Straits of Hormuz will be secure too. But if there is going to be a disturbance of the security in this region, then I think, it will be the turn of the Straits of Hormuz to be unsafe too. That is within our power. Whenever we think the time is ripe we will make the Straits of Hormuz unsafe. But we hope that we will be able to solve the problem soon.

[Correspondent] At the end of the interview, if you have any message for the people of Hormozgan Province, Navy personnel, our brother guards and also other combatants present in this region, please tell them.

[Hashemi-Rafsanjani] God willing, I will address the guards personnel, military personnel, and other Islamic forces in my meetings with them. [end recording]

Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani at 0915 arrived at the parade ground of the Persian Gulf and the Oman Sea Fleet.

The imam's representative on the Supreme Defense Council delivered a speech. In a part of his speech, he said: Whenver we have witnessed adventurism from our enemies, we have merely warned them. When they tried to render unsafe our essential resources in the sea, we told them that our tolerance and our efforts to secure the security of the Persian Gulf are limited. The limit is the continuation of the Islamic Republic, and the continual use of these resources in the Persian Gulf by the Islamic Republic. Although our enemies and the reactionaries subservient to our enemies are taking advantage of our use of these resources, we tolerate this situation. But if you try to stop us from using our essential resources, to replenish our reserves for the war you have imposed on us, then there would be no reason for us to allow you to take advantage of the security that we need too. We need this security, firstly, for our oppressed and self-sacrificing nation, for the Armed Forces, for the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, the Mobilization forces, the Gendarmerie, the police force, and all the popular forces fighting to spread the word of the Koran and who are sacrificing their lives. First and foremost, we want this security for these forces. You can take advantage of this security too. We will never use the facilities of our country to secure the safety of gigantic tankers carrying the oil belonging to the Muslim people of this region to supply factories making napalm, cluster bombs and long-range missiles, factories making Super Etendard planes and Exocet missiles to fire on the resources which are to provide for maintaining the forces guarding the security of the Persian Gulf.

If it comes to that, you would be cutting your own roots; if it comes to that, a rocket that hits our vital resources would hit at your own roots because no one would be left to guard the security of the Persian Gulf. The Persian Gulf would either be safe for everybody or safe for nobody. We hold the key to the Persian Gulf. The Straits of Hormuz are a gate, as big as a door, which is at our disposal. Our popular forces can shut this gate if a decision is made to do so, let alone our fast-flying planes, missile launchers, ground and sea batteries, and the other military facilities we have, if the adventurist Socialist Party of France thinks that it can make the Persian Gulf unsafe for us by delivering a few planes and enjoy the safety itself.

Of course, I think the world has not become such a madhouse that such crises can be allowed. If the world has a slight trait of consideration, or even of selfishness, it would take the precaution not to cut this vital lifeline and not to shut this strait. But, if the day comes when they lose their minds and commit such crimes, this region would not regain its security unless we decide to make it safe. Of our strong nation, the army, the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, the Air, Ground and Navy forces, the Gendarmerie naval-air units, and the Mobilization forces decide to make the region unsafe, only they would be able to do so. If we decide to maintain the security, as it is at present, we will continue to do so.

Hormuz Tour Reported

GF180610 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 18 Sep 83

[Excerpt] Our correspondent at Bandar 'Abbas has sent a report about the visit of Hashemi-Rafsanjani, speaker of the Majlis and representative of the imam to the Supreme Defense Council, to the Hormuz Straits. We draw your attention to this report.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the imam's representative to the Supreme Defense Council who is now touring Hormozgan Province, visited the strategic Hormuz Straits yesterday afternoon on the fighting ship *Zal* accompanied by the chief of the Navy. He inspected the affairs of the region firsthand.

According to our correspondent at Bandar Abbas at the Hormuz Straits, the two naval ships *Zal* and (*Faramorz*) staged a military exercise and showed their military preparedness to defend the Hormuz Straits. The exercise was watched by Hashemi-Rafsanjani.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani also inspected various sections of the *Zal* and was briefed on the operations of each section by the ship's officers. The imam's representative during this visit praised the high morale and readiness of the officers and sailors of the Iranian Navy who are charged with defending the Hormuz Straits and the waters of the Persian Gulf.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani yesterday afternoon returned to Bandar 'Abbas after his visit to the Hormuz Straits and then attended a meeting of the Friday imams of Hormozgan Province.

18 September Address Cited

LD181437 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 18 Sep 83

[Excerpts] Continuing his trip to Hormozgan Province, Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani, speaker of the Majlis and the imam's representative in the Supreme Defense Council, this morning took part in the prayers of the blessed 'Id al-Adha at the imam mosque in Bandar 'Abbas and gave a speech about various national issues.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani then referred to the issue of the security of the Hormuz Strait and the Persian Gulf and said:

This area is the gateway of our economy. If this narrow gateway is not secure then Khorasan, Kordestan, and other cities will not be secure either. Today our country cannot live without the Hormuz Strait. Addressing the people of that province, he said: If you are investing in the security of this area the entire country is dutybound to compensate for these troubles.

Continuing his speech and referring to his visit to Hormuz Strait he said: At a time when we are under enemy blockade, at a time when our major enemy, America, has dropped anchor next door to us in the northern Indian Ocean and has fixed its gaze upon this region, and at a time when Iraq is doing everything to create insecurity in this region, the existence of our military forces and the security that these forces have established in this region are very praiseworthy. At the beginning,no one would have imagined that Iran would be able to maintain security in the critical region of the Persian Gulf and the Strait of Hormuz despite all the difficulties in setting up complex naval forces. Fortunately, our good people, our Muslim, patriotic, committed, and brave forces have so far succeeded in maintaining the security of this region in the best possible way in this hot climate. Iran regards the security of the Hormuz Strait and the Persian Gulf to be necessary. Moreover, our enemies should not imagine that if one day they can disrupt our security they will benefit by it. No, this is impossible.

After speaking during 'Id al-Adha prayers, at 0915 this morning, Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani arrived at the 9th Fighter Base in Bandar 'Abbas and was welcomed by the commander and the personnel of the fighter base. He first made a speech about the constructive role of the Air Force and the destructive role of Bani-Sadr in trying to hamper the development of the Air Force. At 1000, he visited the flight battalion of the 9th Fighter Base and talked to the commander and personnel and offered guidelines on the protection of the airspace of the Islamic Republic of Iran. After visiting the airbase,Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani arrived in the Martyr Raja'i jetty in a helicopter and inspected the different parts of the jetty.

Seda-ye Iran Radio on Majlis Speaker's Tour

GF171324 (Clandestine) Seda-ye Iran Radio in Persian 1930 GMT 16 Sep 83

[Text] The reason why Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the imam's representative on the Supreme Defense Council, paid a visit to Zahedan was to inspect the 78th Army and its preparations to launch another attack on Iraqi territory. He also looked into the unrest which lately has grown in Baluchestan va Sistan Province.

Musavi Denies Pilgrims Pledge Not To Demonstrate

LD162358 Tehran IRNA in English 1956 GMT 16 Sep 83

[Text] Tehran, Sept 16, IRNA -- Prime Minister Musavi today denied allegations by the Saudi Government and rumors of a pledge by Iranian pilgrims to refrain from organizing a protest demonstration in Mecca in condemnation of the big powers.

Musavi who was speaking at a press interview here today noted that prior to this year's hajj ceremonies "a third friendly country" had presented recommendations to the same effect to the Iranian Government, but that in response the Iranian authorities had said expressly that the denunciation of the enemies of Islam and of the "satanic world powers" is a basic commitment of the Iranian people and that as far as is related to this proposition, all Muslim people of Iran as well as government administrators follow in the footsteps of the leader of the Islamic Revolution Imam Khomeyni.

He noted that the demonstrations in Mecca by the pilgrims (?typified) a profound Islamic movement, whereas the foreign media had down-played it as an incident of the everyday world with political implications only.

Statement on Palestinian Massacre Anniversary

LD171846 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 17 Sep 83

[Text]On the anniversary of the massacre of defenseless Muslim Palestinians in the Sabra and Shatila camps by the Zionist invaders and their Phalangist allies, our country's Ministry of Foreign Affairs issued a statement. The Foreign Affairs Ministry, while expressing sympathy for the revolutionary and Muslim nation of Palestine, expounded the role of the global arrogance and their accomplices. The statement says in part:The direct participation of Western interventionist forces, headed by the United States and France, in the massacre of the deprived Lebanese Muslims in Ash-Shiyah, west and south of Beirut — which is in fact the continuation of the massacre of Palestinians in Sabra and Shatila — clearly shows one single aim, that is, the crushing and neutalization of all the forces resisting the arrogant and Zionist greed.

Referring to the fact that the Camp David accords, Fes, and the Reagan and Fahd plans follow the same objective, the statement of the Foreign Affairs Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran says: The coincidence of the anniversary of the massacre of the

Muslim inhabitants of the Sabra and Shatila camps with the anniversary of the massacre of the Palestinians in the Black September of 1970 by King Husayn is an appropriate reminder that all the arrogant and reactionary solutions follow the same aim.

Khomeyni Meets With Pasandideh 18 September

LD181447 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 18 Sep 83

[Text] His eminence Ayatollah Pasandideh, the imam's brother who also enjoys his full power of attorney, this morning met with Imam Khomeyni, leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran. His Eminence Ayatollah Pasandideh, who came to Tehran a few days ago because of illness, returned to Qom to continue administering his seminary.